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GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion. General Headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.)

December 10, 1945. Vol. XXIV. No. 11.

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B. Anthony Stewart

A BRUNET MANX KITTEN POSES FOR ITS ADMIRING BLOND PUBLIC

This tailless little animal merits the interested stares of its public not only because, like all genuine Manx cats, it lacks a tail, but because of the color and pattern of its soft furry coat. A "self-colored" (solid color, in this case black) Manx cat is rare. Like the tailed cats of other lands, most of them are patterned with dots or dashes—"marked," or "tabby." One legend regarding the origin of this rabbit-legged feline is that its ancestors invaded the island when a galleon of the Spanish Armada was wrecked on the shores of the Isle of Man (Bulletin No. 5).

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GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETIN

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic School Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers in the United States and its possessions for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (stamps or money order); in Canada, 50 cents. Originally entered as second-class matter January 27, 1922; re-entered as of April 27, 1943, Post Office, Washington, D. C., under Act of March 3, 1879. Copyright, 1945, by National Geographic Society, Washington 6, D. C. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Quedan reservados todos los derechos.

War's End Brings New Strife to Soerabaja, Java Trade Center

CAUGHT in the swirl of the Indonesian nationalist movement, Soerabaja has previously figured more importantly as a trade center and a naval base than as a focal point of political agitation. The nationalists' armed resistance against British troops sent to accept the surrender of Japanese forces on the island climaxes the long history of foreign dominion over Java and other islands of the far-flung East Indies group.

The Netherlands Indies Company governed most of the islands from 1602—the year it was organized—until its dissolution in 1798. Since then the Netherlands home government has ruled, except during the period of Japanese occupation.

Java's Sugar Trade Centered at Soerabaja

Capital of the province of East Java and most important commercial town of the Netherlands Indies, Soerabaja had nearly 350,000 residents before the war. More than two-thirds of these were Javanese; the remainder were chiefly Chinese, Europeans, and Arabs. The city is 425 miles east of Batavia, Java's capital, on the north coast of the island.

Railway lines from all over Java converging on Soerabaja make the city the chief port for export of sugar, coffee, tobacco, rice, quinine, and hides. Through the agency of the Java Sugar Producers' Association, Soerabaja was the center of the trade in sugar—Java's foremost crop. Oil from local wells was refined and shipped out in large quantities.

The city lies on low land at the two mouths of the Brantas River—the Kali Mas and the Kali Semampir. Across a narrow reach of water to the north, Madoera Island forms the northern shore of Madoera Straits. This hilly land mass provides the port with a sheltered anchorage for large ships. But it also has a detrimental effect on the city's climate as it shuts off the cooling breezes that blow from the Java Sea. High heat and humidity figure in Soerabaja's weather reports in consequence. Mosquitoes and ants are persistent pests. For compensation, skies are often blue even during the monsoon season.

In addition to commercial port facilities, Soerabaja had a naval base equipped to build ships up to 2,000 tons, and to repair the largest vessels. When this base fell to the Japanese in March, 1942, it was the last Allied naval outpost north of Australia.

From the waterfront, Soerabaja extends inland about six miles. South of the docks and the naval establishment, the business center of the city occupies the space between the river mouths. Many races are jumbled together in a confusion of modern hotels and commercial buildings (illustration, next page); old and new dwellings, parks, movie theaters, and warehouses. Residential suburbs with garden-encircled bungalows spread in the city's outskirts.

Tropical Medley of Colors Enlivens the Streets

To visitors before the war, the chief points of interest were the Wilhelmina Tower at the mouth of the Kali Mas, old Prins Hendrik fort, the busy naval base with its thousands of workers, and the public markets where bright displays of tropical fruits and vegetables flamed under gay colored awnings.

Poinciana trees flaunted their scarlet blossoms, hibiscus hedges bloomed in dozens of pinks and reds; banyan trees thrust down their weirdly twisted roots and with tamarinds and palm trees lined the lawnlike banks of the river. Bright

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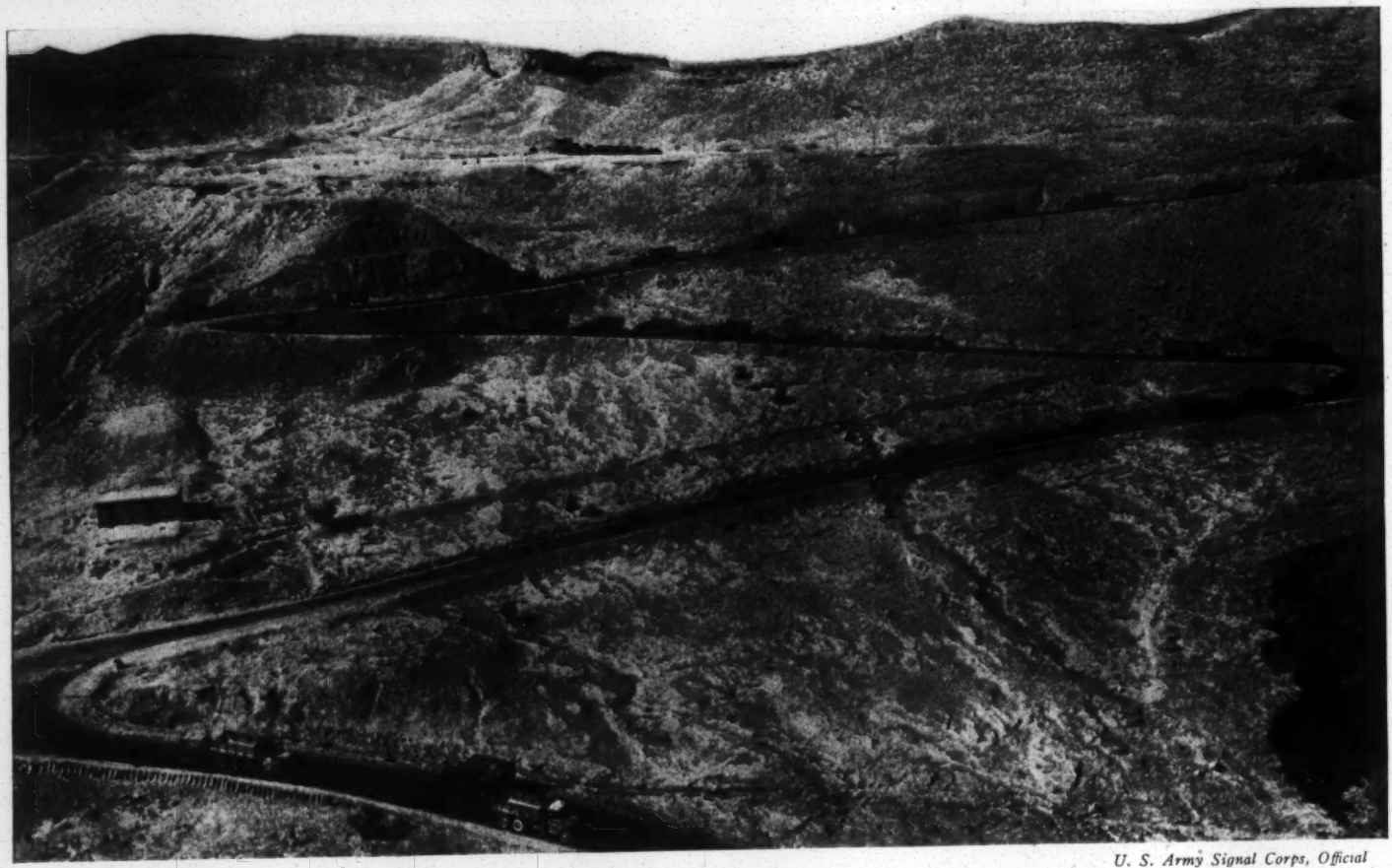

U. S. Army Signal Corps, Official

CRAWLING ACROSS SUN-TORTURED IRAN, AMERICAN TRUCKS CONVOY LEND-LEASE SUPPLIES TO THE SOVIET (Bulletin No. 2)

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General Headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.

Revolution in Iran May Retard Its Postwar Plans

REVOLUTION against the Tehran government, breaking out in the Soviet zone of occupation, has drawn attention to Iran's strategic position, and to its plans for economic self-sufficiency. Since the close of the war Iran has often requested Britain and the Soviet Union to withdraw their forces.

Nature has assigned Iran, long known as Persia, to the role of a land bridge between the East and the West. During the war with Germany, Lend-Lease supplies were routed through Iran to the Soviet Union by the way of the Persian Gulf. The Persian Gulf Command of the U. S. Army, whose job was to transport these supplies, ceased activities in Iran on June 1, 1945, but several thousand noncombatant American soldiers still remain.

Iran Had Its Own Five-Year Plan

National policy for some years had been aiming to satisfy home needs as far as possible with home production. The country plans the revival of old industries and the establishment of new ones. Improvement of agriculture and a higher standard of living are other aims.

In this national plan exports were to be kept in balance with imports. A permit system controls foreign trade. Some articles—such as tea, sugar, matches, and opium—are government monopolies. Rural landscapes have been changing with the building of schools, experiment stations, and silos. Fertilizer plants, irrigation projects, and large-scale tree planting were goals of a war-disrupted five-year plan made effective in 1940.

Since 1936 signs of the new times have been speeded up in the social order as well as in material things. Women share higher education with men, and have dispensed with the veil. The minimum marriage age for girls has been raised from nine to sixteen years. Several towns and cities have installed radio stations. Telephone and telegraph now link larger communities.

As a result of government reform, land is gradually passing from absentee owners into the hands of actual farmers. Farm products new to Iran have been introduced, including tobacco and tea, and the making of new types of wine. The old silk industry is being revived. Cotton is grown in increasing quantities.

Staple crops include wheat, rice, millet, barley, corn, peas, beans, and lentils. Among the fruits are grapes, apricots, lemons, oranges, and pomegranates. Poppies are grown to produce opium for export. Iran produces wool in considerable quantity for its textile industry and exports the surplus.

Oil Ranks as the Country's Major Resource

Traditional handicrafts survive in the weaving of fine rugs and carpets, the making of lacquer ware and pottery, and in embroidery, wood carving, and hand-painted silk. The mechanical age has shown itself in sugar and textile mills, cement plants, cigarette factories, fruit canneries, chemical and glass works, paper mills, and shoe factories. Although heavy industry is not extensive, it is represented by blast furnaces and iron foundries, munitions factories, and repair shops for locomotives and machinery. Major plants are owned in whole or in part by the state.

Oil is Iran's greatest natural resource, a leading source of national income, and a leverage of bargaining power in trade and diplomacy. Known for centuries, the oil pools were not commercially exploited until British interests were granted a concession in 1901. In 1940 Iran ranked fourth as a world producer, and its wells were averaging a daily yield of about 210,000 barrels. The refinery at Abadan was ranked as one of the world's biggest.

Transportation took a long forward step with the completion in 1938 of the 870-mile Trans-Iranian Railway, linking the Persian Gulf coast to the Caspian. From this line another rail route was projected across the northern part of the country to the Armenian S.S.R., there to connect with rails of the Soviet Union. Highways, including the American-built trans-Iranian route (illustration, inside cover) over which Lend-Lease goods flowed, have been built in increasing number. International air service started in 1928. Iran's transport facilities were greatly improved by the Allies during the war.

Two and a third times as big as Texas, Iran has two valuable waterfronts—the Caspian Sea on the north, and the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman on the south. Chief ports on the Persian Gulf are Abadan, Khorramshahr, Bushire, and Bandar Shahpur. On the Caspian Sea frontage the main ports are Pahlevi, Meshed-i-Sar, and Bandar Shah.

Mountains and hills jumble the interior. Ranges in the west and southwest have peaks more than 14,000 feet high. Summits of the Elburz ridges skirting the Caspian shore top

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clothing—sarongs, scarfs, and headgear—made vivid accents in every crowded street. Chinese umbrellas added their rainbow hues. Women carried loads of vegetables and fruit on their heads and children on their hips. Farmers pulled contrary sheep and goats through the streets by their ears. Hawkers cried their wares—articles of brass, rugs, hats, and linens. Birds in cages were for sale.

Soerabaja's streets were a sea of vehicles, moving with no apparent traffic rules and a variety of power—automobiles, trucks, streetcars, and bicycles. Small horses and big bullocks hauled a variety of two-wheeled carts. Streetcar safety islands gave an Occidental touch.

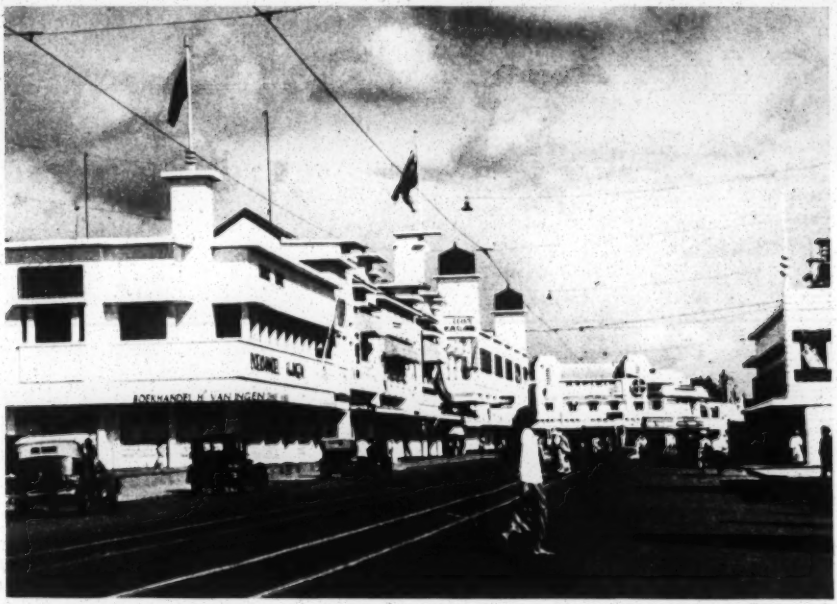
Transportation and communication were well developed. The government maintained a radio station. Railways linked the city to other Java centers. Soerabaja had regular plane service to Singapore and the Netherlands. Ships sailed out of Madoera Straits to all parts of the world.

Streams crisscross the countryside around the city. Ponds and thickets break the marshy land beyond the western suburbs. The high peaks of the Tengger and the Arjuna mountains are a magnificent backdrop for Soerabaja. Twelve-thousand-foot Semeru, active volcano, marks the far distant landscape behind the city. It is one of 45 volcanoes that peak the island, more than half of which are active.

Note: Java is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of the Indian Ocean. A price list of maps may be obtained from the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.

For additional information, see "Java Assignment," in the *National Geographic Magazine*, January, 1942; and "Through Java in Pursuit of Color," September, 1929*; and in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, January 26, 1942, "Java the Tropical Keystone of Allied Far East Defense;" and "Batavia, the Amsterdam of the Orient," January 6, 1941.

Bulletin No. 1, December 10, 1945.



Maynard Owen Williams

SOERABAJA'S DESERTED NOONDAY STREET BELIES ITS BUSY REPUTATION

The burning heat of midday has cleared all but a scattered handful of hardy pedestrians from this broad avenue in Soerabaja's European quarter. To give as much protection as possible from Java's blazing sun, architects of the modern buildings have adapted to the new designs the projecting upper story of old-style tropical shops. Above square white towers fly the red, white, and blue flags of the Netherlands. Streetcar tracks stripe the wide thoroughfare, which contrasts strikingly with the narrow side streets of the old town.

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General Headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.

Kunchantang, China's Communist Party, Controls North Lands

THE defeat of Japan may bring about a showdown in China between the central government's Kuomintang, the party of Chiang Kai-shek, and the Kunchantang, the party opposed to Chiang, the so-called Chinese communists. The controversy between the two parties has raged long, but never more bitterly than now. It has involved great human migrations, open warfare, and the kidnaping of Chiang in 1936 in an attempt to force a settlement of the differences.

The name Kunchantang means literally "Together Production Party," or loosely, "Workers' Party." In late 1944 it reported its military strength as nearly 500,000 soldiers, plus 2,000,000 or so partly armed "peasant militia" and guerrillas. These forces were used to harry Japanese invaders, and to prevent them from plundering the country's resources.

"Cradle of Chinese Civilization" Lies Within Area

Main base of the Kunchantang is in the Shensi-Kansu-Ningsia border area in China's vast northwest. This region was settled by a forced mass migration in 1935 from the southeastern province of Kiangsi. The influence of the party has been strong in the northern provinces of Shansi, Hopeh, and Shantung (illustration, next page). In central China it is rated powerful in northern Kiangsi, Anhwei, and Hupeh. More than 90,000,000 people normally live in the areas the Kunchantang claims to control.

The "border area" base region is on the isolated, thinly populated highlands of loess soil (a yellow earth of superfine silt) lying south of the Great Wall, between the north China plain and central Asia's deserts. The land is dry, stark, uninviting, broken up by loess-clad hills and bare mountains, and crossed and torn by deep gullies and crevasses.

The valley of the Wei Ho (river) around the city of Sian (Siking) is known as the cradle of Chinese civilization; traces of the earliest Chinese culture have been found in the region. From Sian west runs the great highway of central Asia, the old Silk Road, over which China's tea, jade, and silk found their way to the West 2,000 years ago.

Capital city of Kunchantang followers has been Yenan (Fushih), in northern Shensi, never invaded by Japanese ground forces. Before the newcomers arrived in the border region, Yenan was a walled feudal town of 5,000. Today 25,000 or more people live in a bustling new cave city, cut out of the yellow earth after Japanese planes bombed the old city to rubble early in the war.

Even Leaders Do Four Hours' Manual Labor Daily

Nearly all the mountains and hills around the city are man-made beehives of activity. Housed in caves are hospitals, universities training students for political leadership, medical schools, army schools for young officers, and cooperatives. In recent months Wanchuan (Kalgan), metropolis of Inner Mongolia, has partially supplanted Yenan as a capital of Kunchantang territories.

A group of foreign correspondents, permitted in 1944 by the central government to visit Yenan, brought out a picture of a teeming center where Spartan living was the rule. Everyone, including the political leaders, did four hours of physical labor daily.

Since its establishment in the border area, the party is reported to have followed a reformist rather than a revolutionary policy. A loosely democratic

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8,000 feet. A broad desert area lies in the east-central part of the country, between the northern and southern mountain masses.

Many streams rise in the highlands. Some flow down to the coasts. Others are turned to the interior, lose themselves in spongy beds of limestone, continue in underground channels, and emerge in foothills or valleys where their water is caught and stored for irrigation. Trees are so unusual in some areas that they serve as landmarks.

Temperatures run high in the summer—more than 100 degrees Fahrenheit at times in the interior, with July the hottest month of all. GI's stationed in Iran could not wear belt buckles or buttons, for the metal absorbed so much heat as to be untouchable. Winds from the north prevail most of the year. The *shamal* blows for about 120 days up to 60 miles an hour, and wafts dust far out over the Persian Gulf.

Latest estimates of the population range between 10,000,000 and 18,000,000, with seven cities in the "100,000 or more" bracket. In order of rank these cities are: Tehran, the capital and meeting place of a "Big Three" Conference; Tabriz, capital of Azerbaijan, province where the insurgents first struck; Meshed (illustration, below), Isfahan, Shiraz, Resht, and Hamadan.

Called Elam in biblical times, Iran has a history that goes back at least 1,000 years before the Christian era. Migrating groups of Aryan peoples are believed to have taken root in the land and gradually to have begun the work of empire building carried on by Cyrus and later kings. The power of this empire was broken by the Macedonian leader, Alexander the Great, in 333 B.C. Over the centuries it warred with, and finally succumbed to, Rome. After Rome's fall, the country became a prey to Turkish, Mongolian, Tatar, and Afghan invaders.

Modern Iran began in 1794 with its conquest by Agha Mohammed, founder of the so-called Kajar dynasty, which was overthrown in 1925. In the same year a new shah, Riza Khan Pahlevi, was proclaimed, and ruled until 1941, when he abdicated in favor of his son, Muhammed Riza Pahlevi.

Note: Iran is shown on the Society's Map of Asia and Adjacent Areas.

For additional information, see "Iran in Wartime," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for August, 1943; "Along the Old Silk Routes," October, 1940*; and "Old and New in Persia," September, 1939*.

Bulletin No. 2, December 10, 1945.

Lawrence Copley Thaw

TO THIS MOSQUE IN MESHED TRUDGE 100,000 SHIITE PILGRIMS YEARLY

This magnificent structure encloses the tomb of the Imam Riza (Reza), a martyr of the Shia (Shiah) branch of Mohammedanism. Brilliant tiling decorates the façade. The dome and minarets (left) are a delicate blue. Only in recent years have infidels been allowed within the shrine. Harun-al-Rashid, hero of the *Arabian Nights*, is also buried in Meshed, the Mecca of northeast Iran.

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Mines Again Produce Gold after Wartime Suspension

LIFTING the official ban on gold mining in the United States by government order has given the green light to an industry which in 1940 produced more than six million troy ounces of the precious metal, with a value above $210,000,000. Last year the yield—lowest since before the gold-rush days of 1849—was less than a million ounces, worth only about $35,000,000.

Gold mining was suspended in 1942 in order to turn manpower and equipment to the mining of essential war metals. The shutdown also saved explosives used in blasting and conserved machinery for handling ore. The only exceptions were mines producing gold along with war-needed metals such as copper, zinc, and lead; and small operations employing few men.

Western States Are Top Producers

It is estimated that a year or more may be required to place some mining properties in working order. During the mining holiday crews have tended pumps and kept timbering in repair.

Most of the gold mined in the United States comes from western sources. The traditional leaders have been California, South Dakota, Colorado (illustration, next page), Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Utah rose to the top, during the suspension period, on the gold output incidental to its copper production. Only a few states east of the Mississippi mined enough gold to be listed in the official statistics.

Alaska and the Philippine Islands, high-ranking producers, are usually included in the figures for the United States. Their addition to the states' total normally rates the nation as a contributor of about one-seventh or one-eighth of the annual world yield. Possibly 40 per cent of the country's gold usually comes from strictly gold mines; the rest is a by-product.

Prewar gold-mining operations in the United States were distributed among about 1,100 mines. In 1941, 35 companies produced 53 per cent of the total. About six in every ten mines were working ore deposits; the others were placer operations—recovery from gravels by dredges, or by power shovels feeding sluicing plants. All these operations employed more than 20,000 wage earners, though the number of actual miners is much smaller.

250 Square Feet of Gold Leaf from One Ounce of Metal

The bulk of the gold went to the government at $35 an ounce for storage at Fort Knox, Kentucky, to swell the country's monetary reserves which stood at more than $22,000,000,000 at the outbreak of war. From 1837 through 1933 the value had been $20.67 an ounce. Gold released for industrial use in 1941 was valued at about $68,000,000, less than a third of the value of the year's total yield.

Despite the greater importance of gold as money, the metal is highly useful in many arts and trades. Its industrial value is found in its pleasing color, its anti-tarnish and anti-corrosion qualities, and the ease with which it can be drawn into fine wire and hammered into thin sheets. An ounce of gold will make 250 square feet of leaf.

Gold in a pure state is the most malleable and ductile of metals, but traces of other metals greatly reduce these qualities. It is a good conductor of electricity, and it unites firmly with ceramic ware.

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system was developed, with elected councils and officials chosen by popular vote. Before the Japanese invasion, irrigation projects and diversified crops were being introduced; stock raising was increasing.

One of the most important factors in China's long resistance to the Japanese invaders was the development of industrial cooperatives. This method of production was extensively employed in the border areas, where 255 cooperative organizations were reported in March, 1944.

Known as Indusco, the Chinese Industrial Cooperatives were organized in 1938 after the loss of the nation's big industrial areas had left her desperate for manufactured goods. There was little capital for large-scale industry, and few machines; but there was labor in abundance and small quantities of raw materials in many parts of the country.

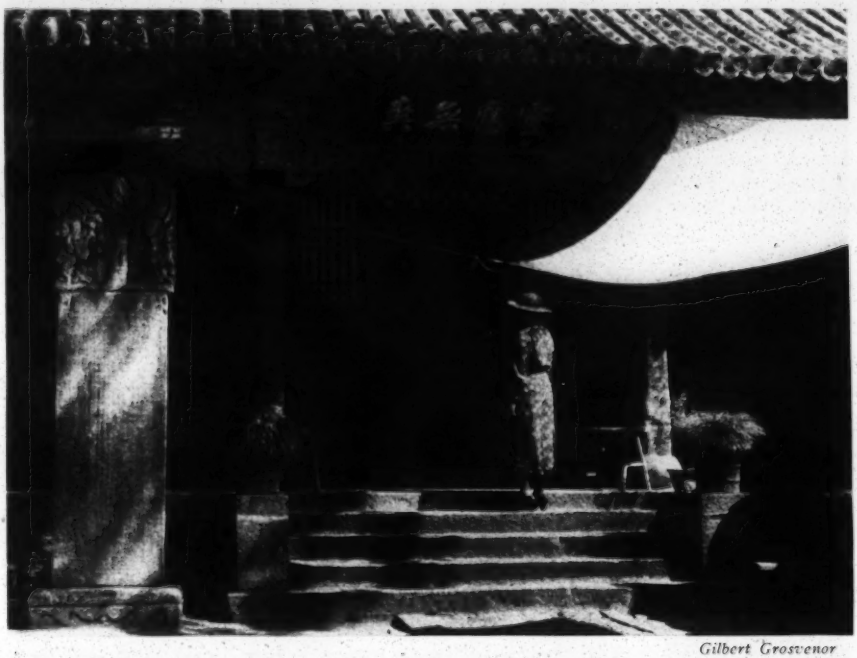
The cooperative movement aimed at the establishment of small local industries. Tools and machines were of the simplest type, and the productive groups were set up in caves, deserted temples, and old houses. They manufactured a variety of need items, ranging from medical supplies to clothing of all sorts, plows, and guns. The movement developed to include other activities, such as banking, printing, public health, and education.

The Kunchantang carries on nearly all the functions of normal government, maintains a postal system, and publishes books, magazines, and newspapers.

Note: The areas where the Kunchantang is influential may be located on the Society's Map of China.

For further information, see "Tai Shan, Sacred Mountain of the East," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for June, 1945; "6,000 Miles over the Roads of Free China," March, 1944; and "Taming 'Flood Dragons' Along China's Hwang Ho," March, 1942.

Bulletin No. 3, December 10, 1945.



Gilbert Grosvenor

PILGRIMS ON SHANTUNG'S SACRED MOUNT REST IN THIS TEMPLE-TEAHOUSE

Dedicated to the Mother of the Great Bear (the constellation), this shrine stands beside the great stone road of 6,700 steps which leads to the summit of Tai Shan, a holy mountain near Taian, in China. Devotees toiled up its slopes centuries before Moses climbed Sinai. The characters above the door mean, "Miraculously responding (to prayer) without fail."

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Geo-Graphic Brevities

SOCHI, RESORT ON "CAUCASUS RIVIERA," BUILT BY STALIN FOR WORKERS

CLOSE to Generalissimo Stalin's heart is the big young resort area for workers at Sochi, where the vacationing Soviet leader recently received United States Ambassador Harriman.

The small Black Sea port of Sochi, until a dozen years ago, was just one of the 13 steamer stops on the steamer run from Novorossisk to Batumi. Although long well-known among Russians as a leading resort of the "Caucasus Riviera," Sochi was then still only a carry-over from the days of vacationing nobility under tsarist regimes.

Then Comrade Stalin himself initiated the plan to convert the area from Sochi to Matsesta into a big recreation center for Soviet workers. Sochi itself offered a mild, healthful seacoast with wooded Caucasus foothills reaching right to the shore. Matsesta, five miles southeast and one mile inland, was famous for its health-giving sulphur springs.

In the winter of 1933-34 the program of reconstruction and expansion was begun. A wide automobile highway was built to join the two towns. Within three years the area counted over 50 sanatoriums and rest homes with accommodations for 11,000 workers at one time. Outstanding among them was the Voroshilov Sanatorium for Red Army veterans at Sochi, an ultra-modern structure of concrete and glass, equipped to serve 500 persons. Crowning a palm-studded height overlooking the sea, it was reached by a cog railway flanked by concrete stairways.

Credited with a permanent population of nearly 25,000 in 1939, Sochi lies on high ground on the east bank of a small river. It includes hotels, a hospital, many fine houses, and government buildings for administration of the surrounding district. The town piers accommodate steamers of eight-foot draft.

The little port is the first steamer stop southeast of Tuapse, to which the petroleum of the Soviet Union's rich Grozny oil fields is piped for export shipment. It is barely a dozen miles northwest of the border of the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic, land of Stalin's birth.

Sochi's healthful climate may be noted from its temperature averages, 72 degrees in July, 42 degrees in January; and from its average annual rainfall of 56 inches. Vineyards, fruit groves, and various sub-tropical plants are cultivated on the surrounding coastal slopes of the Caucasus.

Note: Sochi appears on the Society's Map of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

See also "I Learn About the Russians," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for November 1943*; and "Roaming Russia's Caucasus," July, 1942*.

* * * * *

ISLE OF MAN'S PARLIAMENT MEETS IN OPEN AIR ON TYNWALD HILL

LAST summer's visit of George VI to the Isle of Man, tiny British possession in the Irish Sea midway between northern England and Ireland, was climaxed by his presiding over the annual open-air meeting of the island's parliament. This is one of the oldest of the few open-air parliaments that the world has known, comparing closely in age with the famous Althing of Iceland which now meets indoors. This was also the first time in six centuries of British rule that a British monarch has presided in person as Lord of Man over the parliament.

This parliament traces its beginnings to the Dark Ages, when Norse invaders

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The metal's characteristic glitter appears in gold braid and embroidery for uniforms and vestments. It is plated on band instruments, and is much favored by jewelers. Dentists use up fortunes in fillings, crowns, and bridges. Makers of scientific instruments turn to it for hair springs and contacts for specialized electrical devices. Some laboratory dishes and crucibles are made of gold alloyed with other metals. It also serves in tubes for radium therapy, in targets for X-rays, and in salts for the treatment of some skin diseases.

As gold leaf, it shines from domes and crosses, gleams on picture and mirror frames, and brightens bookbindings and playing-card edges. Store windows are marked with gold-leaf lettering, and pawnshops attract borrowers with their signs of the three golden balls. Buildings, ballrooms, and railway cars dip into the supply in order to have their names and decorations in gold.

Much gold in the form of leaf has worn away and been lost to the world forever. It cannot be scraped off and reclaimed. It is part of the world's treasure that has vanished forever in civilization's wake.

Bulletin No. 4, December 10, 1945.

Colorado Association

LEADVILLE HAS MINED ITS NAME METAL, PLUS GOLD, SILVER, AND ZINC

Gold came first, in '59 and '60, and the boom town was called Oro City. In 1878, after discoveries of rich carbonate of lead deposits with a high silver content, Leadville received its present name. It became Colorado's second-largest city and one of the world's richest and lustiest mining centers. Situated nearly two miles above sea level, the town is said to have a climate that is "10 months winter and two months mighty late in the fall."

IS YOUR CLASSROOM WELL SUPPLIED WITH MAPS—

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conquered the 30- by 12-mile island in the ninth century. Since then, despite Irish, Scottish, and English rule, the ancient Norse custom that all laws be enacted in the open before a full assembly of freemen has continued.

Every year on July 5, old Midsummer Day, the parliament meets with pomp and ceremony on Tynwald Hill and proclaims the laws passed during the previous year for the island's 50,000 inhabitants. These laws are, or course, subject to British approval. Curiously enough, no act of the British Parliament applies to the Isle of Man unless it is specifically stated in the law.

The latest session of the open-air parliament voted a voluntary gift to the British Crown of $1,000,000 to help pay the costs of the war. This sum amounts to $20 for every man, woman, and child in the island.

Tynwald Hill is a mound 12 feet high and 80 feet in diameter, reputedly made with earth brought from all 17 of the island's parishes. It is located in St. John's, about two miles from Peel, the west coast "sunset city." On Midsummer Day it is strewn with rushes, and four circular platforms provide seats for the lawmakers. On the summit there is a state chair for the royal governor, in this unique instance, George VI.

After a religious ceremony in near-by St. John's church, a colorful procession of robed officials moves to Tynwald between a military guard of honor. A band plays a royal salute as the Lord of Man takes his place. All laws passed since the last outdoor meeting are read in English and Manx, the ancient Celtic tongue now understood by only a few people. Newly elected officials take office, and the laws are duly signed. This year the ceremony took on added significance for certain Manxmen received honors won in the war.

The origin of the name of the island is obscure. Generally it is thought to be an early Celtic name which meant "mountainous or hilly land." Caesar was the first historian to write the name, which he spelled Mona. This was later changed by Irish writers to Mana, from which comes the modern form. Manx cats (illustration, cover) originated there.

Note: The Isle of Man is shown on the Society's Map of the British Isles.
See also "The Isle of Man," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for May, 1937*.

Bulletin No. 5, December 10, 1945.

B. Anthony Stewart

LIKE A TRANSPLANTED BIT OF SCOTTISH MOOR IS THIS ISLE OF MAN SCENE

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